## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: 2323-B/2004

Applicant: Violet M. Hanson

Serial No. Divisional of Patent # 10/322,545

Filed:

For: PLASTIC GUSSET BAG WITH CLOSURE AND CUT-OUT HANDLE (METHOD)

Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Washington, D. C. 20231

VERIFIED STATEMENT 9DECLARATION0 CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS UNDER 37 C.F.R. lp (f) AND 1.27)b – INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.9 ©) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Sections 41 (a) and 41(b) of Title 35, United States Code to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention described in the above-entitled application (Patent).

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R 1.9 ©) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R 1.9 (d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 (a).

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate (37 C.F.R. 1.28 (b).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title is of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application of any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement-is directed.

Date:  $\frac{2}{9/04}$ 

Violet Hanson